ADVANCES IN MATHEMATICS 60, 360 (1986)

Book Reviews

H. L. DREYFUS AND H. HALL (Eds.), *Husserl, Intentionality and Cognitive Science*, MIT Press, 1982, 360 pp.

Hubert Dryefus is a leading exponent of the reinterpretation of the incisive and unfathomably deep *corpus* of phenomenological philosophy in the language of current cognitive psychology and even AI. The amount of time lost in rediscovering the most elementary conclusions of phenomenology is matched only by the arrogance with which latter-day self-styled philosophers of perception promulgate *urbi et orbi* their belated rediscoveries. Unfortunately, we are still lacking an adequate introduction to phenomenology, Husserl is no easier to translate into English than a Japanese haiku, and it is not realistic to expect an AI technician to take three years off to learn German and read him in the original. Something must be done before the know-nothings take over.

J. PASSMORE, *Recent Philosophers*, Open Court, 1985, 173 pp.

When pygmies cast such long shadows, it must be very late in the day.

W. FULTON AND S. LANG, *Riemann–Roch Algebra*, Springer, 1985, 203 pp.

Anyone who ever looked at the slickened versions of what was once the Riemann–Roch theorem cannot have failed to notice that a universal formulation was at stake, with potential applications throughout mathematics. The authors have taken the bold step of presenting such a formalism in full clarity and generality. What comes to the fore is, once more, the theory of symmetric functions. While warmly congratulating Professors Fulton and Lang for their outstanding expository success, we take the liberty of recommending (in all humility, of course) that they take some time off to learn about Schur functions.

A. J. E. M. JANSSEN, *Application of the Wigner Distribution*, Mathematisch Centrum, Amsterdam, 1979, 169 pp.

The Wigner distribution, originally introduced in quantum mechanics, is making headway into "straight" probability, as the present bold monograph interestingly proves.

P. M. ALBERTI AND A. UHLMANN, *Stochasticity and Partial Order*, Reidel, Dordrecht, 1982, 123 pp.

One of the interesting mysteries of today's mathematics is the dominance order: it occurs in the representations of the symmetric group and all over combinatorics, as well as in probability and harmonic analysis. The authors go a long way to displaying the universal occurrence of the dominance order by studying it in matrix space and more generally in von Neumann algebras. We are a long way from seeing the end of this intriguing concept.

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